

Amendments to the Claims**Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for making a connection on a mining dragline ~~termination for a wire rope having a first end and a second end~~, comprising the steps of:
 - a. providing a multistrand steel mining dragline of between 4 and 7 inches in diameter having a first end and a second end;
[[a]][b]. inserting the first end into a mold, wherein the mold comprises a mold opening;
[[b]][c]. placing a crucible with a crucible opening over the mold wherein the mold opening is in fluid communication with the crucible opening;
[[c]][d]. placing a separator in the crucible over the crucible opening;
[[d]][e]. adding an exothermic metallic material to the crucible;
[[e]][f]. placing a baffle on top of the crucible;
[[f]][g]. igniting the exothermic metallic material forming a molten material which liquefies the separator in the crucible;
[[g]][h]. flowing the molten material into the mold around the first end forming a frustoconical termination capable of sustaining a higher break force than the wire rope;
[[h]][i]. providing a socket, weighing between 1500 lbs. and 2800 lbs., having a slotted opening parallel to the longitudinal axis of the ~~wire rope~~ mining dragline, and having an open frustoconical portion;
[[i]][j]. providing a pair of connector holes in the socket generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the ~~wire rope~~ mining dragline;
[[j]][k]. inserting the wire rope into the slotted opening from a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the ~~wire rope~~ mining dragline;

[[k]][l]. abutting the frustoconical termination against the open frustoconical portion;

and

[[l]][m]. connecting at least one of the pair of the connector holes to a drag chain connected to a mining excavation bucket.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).

5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the mold forms the frustoconical termination into a male connection.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Canceled).

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the exothermic metallic material comprises a powdered metallic alloy.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the powdered metallic allo[[w]][y] is drawn from the group of an aluminum, an aluminum alloy, a copper, a copper alloy, and oxides thereof aluminum, copper and tin.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended) A method for making a termination for a wire rope having a first end and a second end, comprising the steps of

a. providing that the wire rope be of a diameter between about 4 inches and about 7 inches;

[[a]][b]. inserting the first end into a mold, wherein the mold comprises a mold opening;

[[b]][c]. pouring a liquid adhesive into the mold through the mold opening;

[[c]][d]. allowing the liquid adhesive to cure forming a frustoconical termination capable of sustaining a higher break force than the wire rope;

[[d]][e]. producing a socket, weighing between 1500 lbs and 2800 lbs., having a slotted opening parallel to the longitudinal axis of the wire rope, an open frustoconical portion and a pair of connector holes generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the wire rope;

[[e]][f]. inserting the frustoconical termination into the slotted opening using a force applied to the wire rope perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis of the wire rope; and

[[f]][g]. connecting the at least one of the pair of connector holes to a drag chain connected to a mining excavation bucket.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the wire rope is a single strand rope or a

multi-strand rope.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the mold forms the frustoconical termination into a male connection.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Canceled).

22. (Canceled).

23. (Canceled).

24. (Canceled).